

## The Sadie Knowland Coe Music Collection of the Evanston Public Library

Founded in memory of Sadie Knowland Coe (*b.* 1864,  
*d.* 1905), and designed to perpetuate the work of musical  
culture carried on by her in Evanston for twelve years.  
Opened to the public April 2, 1908.

THE basis of this Collection is the printed music and books on music belonging to Mrs. Coe at the time of her death. The printed music constitutes a nearly complete library of significant works for the pianoforte, besides chamber music, opera scores, etc. Large additions have been made to both the books and the printed music, and further additions will be made in the near future. The collection and an endowment for its maintenance are the gift of George A. Coe.

In its present state the Collection consists of the following:

*a.* Printed Music. In addition to piano music, which includes a considerable amount for four hands, and chamber music, there is a fairly complete collection of the scores of important operas, oratorios, and great choral compositions, and also miniature scores of the great symphonies.

*b.* Books on Music. The works now in this Collection, taken in connection with the works on music in the General Library, are sufficient for all ordinary music study, not only by the people at large, but also by music students and teachers. Not much in the way of rare material for professional research has been obtained, but it is hoped that this also can be provided in a moderate measure as demand arises.

*c.* A Weber pianola piano (themodist), and a collection of pianola rolls. Orders have been given for about 500 rolls, of which over 100 have thus far been received.

In harmony with Mrs. Coe's efforts to promote the popular appreciation of music, the guiding principle in the selection of all material has been a desire to furnish opportunity for music study to persons at as many stages of musical culture as possible, but most of all to persons whose aims are those of general rather than professional culture. The printed music and the pianola rolls represent primarily the history of music as it is illustrated in the best specimens of the various periods and forms. What is merely pleasing or popular, but without either historical significance or artistic value, has been excluded. In order, further, that there may be opportunity not merely to acquire information, but also to study music itself, that is, the actual tones, a piano has been provided. Readers in the General Library will not be disturbed, for the floor and wall of the music room have been efficiently deadened. Persons who have an adequate piano technic may here read the printed music for themselves; persons who lack such technic will be able to read a considerable number of the same compositions by the help of the pianola.

The entire collection is placed in a room by itself, which is furnished for use as a general music work-room, with facilities for copying music, etc. The portrait of Mrs. Coe, which is by Ralph Clarkson, after a photograph by W. B. Dyer, is a gift from many of her friends. The specially designed flower vase in beaten copper bears the initials of its donor, the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, of which Mrs. Coe was an honorary member. The piano lamp, table lamp, and desk set in beaten copper were specially designed for this room, and each piece bears the letter "C." The life-size busts of Beethoven and Wagner suggest the two foci of Mrs. Coe's broad musical interests.

All printed music, rolls, and books on music, whether contained in the Coe Collection or in the General Library, are catalogued together. Duplicate card catalogues will be found in the Coe room and in the general delivery room.

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Books, printed music, and rolls will be loaned for home use on conditions that will be described in the rules of the collection. As far as rolls are concerned, this is an experiment for which there is no precedent. The results of the experiment will determine whether the plan shall become permanent, or whether the use of rolls shall be restricted to the Coe room. Pianola rolls will fit many players beside the pianola. Recommendations of books, music, or rolls for purchase will be carefully considered.

### **Tentative Rules**

#### *Use of Room*

For access to Coe Music Room, apply at Loan Desk.

Hours: An attendant will be in the room, until April 18, from 10 to 1, and from 2 to 5 daily except Sunday, and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, 7 to 9, for the purpose of explaining the Collection, and the use of the pianola.

Reference use of books and music to be made in Coe Room at usual Library hours.

Books and music not to be carried to general read-rooms without special permission.

The piano is not to be used for practice or amusement, and it is understood that the time of each player is limited.

#### *Circulation of Books and Music*

Books, music, and pianola rolls will be loaned upon the usual borrower's card, and will be subject to the rules governing the circulation of books from the General Library. Music and rolls may be taken in addition to the two books now allowed on a card.

Unless otherwise marked, books and music may be retained two weeks. Pianola rolls may be retained seven days.

Only two rolls, or the several rolls comprising one composition, may be taken at one time on a borrower's card.



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